

Listing of the Claims:

1-18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) A product comprising:
a machine readable medium; and
a program encoded on the medium which causes a processor in an acoustic signal monitoring system to:

receive an acoustic signal from a microphone;
analyze time series data obtained from the acoustic signal to determine whether the microphone is 'on' or whether the microphone is 'off';
transform the acoustic signal into a frequency domain signal;
determine undesirable microphone placement by:
determining whether the microphone is too close to a user by detecting an air puff based on the frequency domain signal;
determining a signal-to-noise ratio of the frequency domain signal; and
determining whether the microphone is too far from the user based on the signal-to-noise ratio; and
reporting to a user, through a user display, whether the microphone is too close or too far, and whether the microphone is 'on' or 'off'.

20. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 19, where reporting includes suggesting an action for the user to take to correct for the undesirable microphone placement.

21. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 20, where the action is at least one of: 'talk louder', 'move the microphone closer', 'move somewhere less noisy', or 'put on a headset microphone'.

22. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 19, where the program further causes the processor to:

determine a RMS value of the acoustic signal; and

compare the RMS value to a threshold to determine whether the microphone is 'on' or 'off'.

23. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 19, where the program further causes the processor to:

detect clipping of the acoustic signal; and
report the clipping to the user through the user display.

24. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 19, where the processor continuously determines whether the microphone is 'on' or 'off'.

25. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 19, where the processor continuously determines undesirable microphone placement.

26. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 19, where the processor continuously determines undesirable microphone placement and whether the microphone is 'on' or 'off'.